

Ronald J. Friedman

Shareholder
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Areas of Practice

Ron Friedman is a member of Lane Powell's White Collar Criminal Defense, Regulatory Compliance and Special Investigations Practice Group. Ron represents a number of clients in matters relating to pharmaceutical compliance in DEA, FDA, and Washington Department of Health investigations. Ron came to Lane Powell after a distinguished career with the United States Justice Department. Ron served as a federal criminal prosecutor in Seattle for 22 years. Before that, Ron practiced white collar criminal defense in Washington, D.C.

Ron focuses on complex litigation and regulatory compliance with an emphasis on violations of the Food and Drug Cosmetic Act, Uniform Controlled Substances Act, financial crimes, environmental crimes, and criminal and regulatory investigations involving banks, businesses, corporate executives, pharmaceutical distributors and health care entities. Ron represents individuals and companies in a variety of contexts, including clients who are the target or subject of criminal and regulatory investigations, clients wishing to implement adequate compliance and due diligence protocols, clients who are witnesses in grand jury proceedings, and clients accused of criminal wrong-doing at all stages of proceedings, including indictment, trial, and on appeal. Ron's focus includes business loss prevention, false product claim issues, securities fraud, money laundering, embezzlement, drug diversion and regulatory practice issues. Ron has extensive experience in the areas of government procurement fraud, health care fraud, and cases involving the pharmaceutical and medical industries, including retail drug chains, product manufacturers and distributors, and foreign companies seeking to do business and comply with the laws of the U.S. Ron represents such individuals and entities in criminal, regulatory and licensing proceedings.

Prior to joining Lane Powell, Ron worked in every unit of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, and participated in combined investigations with the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, resulting in civil enforcement decrees, fines and penalties. Ron conducted hundreds of investigations resulting in indictments, jury trials and appeals. All matters brought to trial resulted in conviction, and all matters argued before the United States Court of Appeals were affirmed. In addition, Ron served as supervisor of federal grand juries in Seattle for six years, where he oversaw numerous grand jury investigations, examined witnesses and litigated matters involving compliance with grand jury subpoenas.

Ron is responsible for developing multiple highly successful and nationally recognized federal law enforcement programs, including Operation Stolen Valor, which resulted in the conviction of numerous individuals for committing armed services fraud, and Operation Midnight Express, which resulted in the conviction of numerous health care providers and civil fines against pharmaceutical distributors for committing regulatory violations and unlawfully importing and diverting pharmaceuticals.

Ron has substantial experience in investigations involving the United States import and export laws, bank secrecy and currency reporting laws, FDA laws, DEA laws, False Claims Act, and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Ron has received numerous local and national awards, including the Director's Award from the United States Attorney General for excellence in a case involving foreign corporations conducting unauthorized business in the United States in violation of U.S. law.

Professional Experience

Assistant U.S. Attorney, Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney Office, Seattle, Wash. (1987-2009)

Law Clerk, U.S. District Judge Martin Feldman, Eastern District of Louisiana (1985-1987)

Associate, Schwalb, Bray and Silbert, Washington, D.C. (1983-1985)

Admitted to Practice

Washington

District of Columbia

Academics

Harvard Law School (J.D.)

Massachusetts Public Defenders (1983)

Harvard Defenders (1980-1982)

University of Virginia (B.A., with highest distinction)

Practice Group and Specialty Team Memberships

Antitrust and Trade Regulation

Canada Practice

Financial Institutions

Health Care

Litigation

Long Term Care and Seniors Housing

Mortgage and Consumer Finance

Securities Litigation

White Collar Criminal Defense, Regulatory Compliance and Special Investigations

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Representative Matters and Clients

Represented President of Hospital Services Corporation in federal criminal case involving allegations of securities fraud and market manipulation

Represented President of Environmental Inspection Company in federal criminal case involving allegations of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and violations of the Clean Air Act

Represented Retail Drug Store Chain and Pharmacists in DEA regulatory investigation involving allegations of unlawful distribution of pharmaceuticals and records violations

Represented National Food Manufacturer in FDA action seeking a recall; recall was averted

Represented Chain of Health Care Clinics and Corporate Officer in FDA investigation involving allegations of unlawful importation of a misbranded drug, sale of an unapproved new drug, and false statements

Represented National Medical Product Wholesaler in FDA investigation involving allegations of drug misbranding and improper sale of merchandise. Recall averted; product deemed compliant

Represented national drug wholesaler and distributor in FDA criminal investigation involving allegations of fraud and sale of stolen merchandise

Represented Corporate Comptroller in whistleblower investigation involving allegations of accounting fraud

Represented Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Distributors in DEA and FDA regulatory investigations

Represented Medical Trauma Training Center in DEA regulatory investigation

Represented Health Care Entities and Employees in DEA and DOH regulatory investigations

Represented Washington State political party official in federal criminal investigation involving allegations of fraud and false statement

Represented Public School Fiscal Officer in investigation involving allegations of theft and public corruption

Represented Construction Company in State investigation alleging criminal non-compliance with construction permits

Represented Financial Investment Advisor in federal criminal case involving allegations of bank fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and unlawful conversion

Represented Chief Executive Officer of Oil Drilling Company conducting business overseas in criminal case involving allegations of wire fraud and tax evasion

Represented Seafood Processing Company in State investigation alleging criminal violations of fisheries law

Represented Media Representative in FBI investigation involving allegations of unauthorized disclosure of classified information

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Publications

“DEA Audits: Coming to a Theatre Near You,” American Bar Association Health Law Section Newsletter, *ABA Health eSource* (October 2011)

“Lessons from the Failed Prosecution of In-House Pharmaceutical Counsel,” American Bar Association Criminal Litigation Section Newsletter, Co-author (Fall 2011)

“Understanding the New Washington State Pain Medication and Opioid Rules,” Washington State Pharmacy Association Website (June 2011)

“A Knock at the Door: Responding to Government Investigations,” *Physicians Risk Management Update* (January 2011)

“Increased Scrutiny of Medical Providers: A Cause for Reflection and Diligence,” American Academy of Pain Management’s quarterly magazine, *The Pain Practitioner* (Summer 2010)

“When is a Kickback a Kickback? — Navigating the Perilous Road of Marketing Incentives in the Pharmaceutical Industry,” *Contract Pharma Magazine* (May 2010)

“Swallowing the Wrong Pill — Criminal Drug Diversion by Medical Professionals, A Prosecutor’s Perspective,” *Pain Medicine News Magazine* (May 2009)

“Don’t Take the Money and Run — Be Careful When a Client Pays in Cash,” *National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Magazine* (July 2007)

Speaking Engagements

- “Protect Your DEA Registration And Your Revenue’s Practice,” DecisionHealth Webinar, Host (January 26, 2012)
- “Navigating the Difficult Road of Effective Pain Management: Understanding the New Opioid Rules,” Evergreen Hospital Medical Center Continuing Medical Education (December 16, 2011)
- “Commercial Law Developments,” Lane Powell Seminar, Seattle (December 15, 2011)
- “DEA Decisions: Making Sense of Dissonant Decisions When Representing Pharmacists,” American Society of Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 18, 2011)
- “Increased Law Enforcement Scrutiny of DEA Pharmaceutical Registrants: Caught in the Crosshairs,” Continuing Medical Education Presentation to Marion General Hospital and Grant County Medical Society (October 20, 2011)
- “Responding to and Cooperating With Government Inquiries: Putting Your Best Foot Forward,” Lane Powell’s 29th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar, Seattle (September 20, 2011)
- “Controlled Substances in Long Term Care Facilities: Where We Were, Where We Are and Where We’re Headed,” American Health Lawyers Association Webinar (August 10, 2011)
- “Regulatory Enforcement Actions At Pharmacies — Principles and Pressure Points,” Washington State Pharmacy Association Annual Meeting (June 3, 2011)
- “From the White Collar Suites to the Meanest of Streets: Finding More Effective Negotiating Strategies With the Government,” Federal Criminal Defense Bar Discussion (May 18, 2011)
- “Health Care Compliance: Preparing for Regulatory Investigations,” Washington Academy of Pain Management (April 27, 2011)
- “Pharmacy and Compliance in the Long Term Care Setting,” Health Care Compliance Association’s 15th Annual Compliance Institute (April 12, 2011)
- “Politics, Ethics and Risks of Pain Prescribing,” Everett Clinic Ethics Committee (March 25, 2011)
- “Avoiding and Responding to Government Investigations of Medical Providers Who Prescribe Controlled Substances,” Washington State Society of Healthcare Attorneys’ Winter Quarterly Presentation (March 1, 2011)
- “Defending a Financial Fraud Case and Getting a Good Result,” Northwest Fraud Investigators Association Conference (November 5, 2010)
- “Emerging Challenges to Medical Professionals 2010,” Civil Division of the King County Prosecutors Office (June 15, 2010)
- “Defending Financial Fraud Cases,” Northwest Fraud Investigators Association Conference (April 16, 2010)
- “Legal Hazards to Physicians Posed by Social Networking Sites,” University of Washington Medical School (April 15, 2010)

“Hate Crimes and the Holocaust,” Washington Holocaust Education and Resource Center
(March 16, 2010)

“Responding to Audits and Investigations of One’s Medical Practice,” Washington Society of
Addiction Medicine Conference (March 4, 2010)

Awards and Honors

Named as one of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, White Collar Criminal Defense (2011-2012)

Professional and Community Activities

Board of Directors, The Valley School, a Nonprofit Primary School in Seattle, Wash. (2011)

Board of Directors, Washington State Holocaust Education and Resource Center, a nonprofit
educational organization dedicated to promoting ideals of tolerance, and preventing hate, bigotry
and genocide (2011)

Member, Washington State Attorney General’s Prescription Drug Advisory Group (2011)

Member, American Society of Pharmacy Law (2011)

Member, Washington State Pharmacy Association (2012)

Faculty, American Bar Association, Litigation Section, Legal Services Advocacy Training Program,
University of Washington Law School (2010)

University of Washington School of Law

Mentor, Professional Development Program (2011)

Faculty, Trial Advocacy (1994-2005)

Member, Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (“WACDL”) (2010)

Member, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (“NACDL”) (2010)

Member, American Health Lawyers Association (“AHLA”), Fraud and Abuse Practice Group (2010)

Member, Washington State Society of Health Care Attorneys (2010)

Member, Speakers Bureau, Washington State Bar Association (2010)